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tary School building, which Portland Public Schools closed the year before as part of a district-wide restructuring effort.

Oregon Public Broadcasting reported last May that the school would be losing its lease – which had initially been written to last through 2026, with options for up to three extensions of up to 10 years. But officials said the school's payments to PPS – of more than

at St. Charles, we shared about each other's passions and each other's ministry and we found we're so alike, this will be a great partnership if it happens – and thankfully it did happen," Leong said.

Both communities serve families of modest means, Leong said. De La Salle also has a higher proportion of minority students than many other Portland schools, and a high percentage

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\$33,00 a month – were too steep.

In 2015 De La Salle North officials approached PPS, offering to buy the building, negotiate a 60-year lease extension or terminate the lease earlier than 2026. The district chose the third option, and three years later officials learned the school would be losing its lease.

“After exploring more than 40 sites over the past three years, we are thrilled to have found a new and permanent home for De La Salle North Catholic High School,” said Patti O'Mara, chair of the board of trustees of De La Salle North in the school's press release. “The first time I visited St. Charles Parish, I could envision our students filling the classrooms of this building. We are very grateful to establish this long-term partnership with St. Charles and to become a vital member of the Cully neighborhood.”

By the time De La Salle North president Oscar Leong stepped into his role last July, the board's search for a new school site was well underway.

“I really give credit to board chair Patti O'Mara and the rest of the board members to opening their eyes about this opportunity,” Leong told *The Skanner*.

Many of the other sites officials looked at were not quite right in some way, Leong said: too large, too small or too far away. The new location in the Cully neighborhood is not far from Kenton, and felt “like a place where De La Salle students belong.”

“The first time I actually met Leif Kehrwald, the pastoral administrator of St. Charles Parish,

of low-income students for a private school: according to demographic information released by the school, 33 percent of De La Salle students identify as African American, 38 percent of students as Hispanic, 10 percent as Caucasian, 8 percent as multiracial, 3 percent as Asian and 8 percent as other or unknown. More than half qualify for free or reduced lunch.

Eighty-nine percent of students receive a scholarship to attend and 68 percent have full scholarships, with no student being turned away for an inability to pay – and although students start on average a year and a half behind in reading and math, a full 100 percent are accepted to college on graduation.

The school is also known for its replication of the corporate work study program pioneered by Chicago's Cristo Rey Jesuit High School, which allows students to work one day a week to partially finance the cost of their tuition while learning office skills and making connections.

Leong said officials told students Tuesday during a senior ring ceremony that the current senior, junior and sophomore classes would be the last three to graduate out of the current building; in fall of 2021, De La Salle students who are freshmen now will be seniors on the St. Charles campus.

“A big cheer went up, and it was really exciting to hear – really exciting and humbling and emotional,” Leong said.

The new facility will accommodate 350 students, and the school is currently accepting applications for the class of 2023. For more information, visit www.delasallenorth.org.



PHOTO BY JERRY FOSTER

Forest Service Celebrates Scholarship Recipients

The USDA Forest Service held a reception for the recipients of The Skanner Foundation's scholarship on March 12 in Portland. The Skanner Foundation, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Region, awards two scholarships of \$1,500 each to an eligible graduating high school senior and/or an eligible college student in the Portland/Vancouver/Seattle areas. Normally these scholarships are awarded at The Skanner Foundation's annual Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast, but this year the Forest Service – the only federal partner with The Skanner Foundation – was not able to attend. This year's winners were Ganiyat Karimu and Nikki Nguyen, seniors at De La Salle North Catholic High School. Pictured here are Glenn Casamassa, Regional Forester, PNW Region (left); scholarship recipient Ganiyat Karimu; Shoni Pilip-Florea, director, office of communications and community engagement, USDA Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Region; scholarship recipient Nikki Nguyen; and Shandra L. Terry, regional community engagement and inclusion programs coordinator for the USDA Forest Service.

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‘not compliant’ with the terms of probation, this is a space that someone could go instead of getting sanctioned to jail,” Stamp said.

“Instead of ‘Go do five days in

“At the Diane Wade House, she said, ‘The women get to be themselves’

jail because you're screwing up,’ the response could be, ‘I have a resource for you that could help you get more stability and head on the road towards wellness.’”

The house is largely staffed by peers – women who have themselves been involved in the justice system. Sonja Freeman, a certified recovery mentor at the Diane Wade House, said her experience with incarceration and in transitional housing has given her insight into how a more culturally specific program can benefit women of color.

“I talk loud,” Freeman said. “I talk with my hands. I was known as aggressive or threaten-

ing when culturally it's different. I'm just passionate. That's how we communicate. At the Diane Wade House, we understand that. We're not intimidated by that. We can read the body language, we know the tone.”

Freeman told *The Skanner* about her own interactions with the justice system: Separated from her family at an early age, she turned to drugs and alcohol to cope with trauma. Being biracial proved to be a social barrier, and she found that she was most accepted in circles where substance abuse was prevalent.

“I did do county time,” Freeman said. “I was on probation one time for 10 years. I had 15 convictions that I got expunged, that are now completely off my record” as of last week.

She recalled living in a transition home where she didn't feel comfortable enough to cook her favorite comfort foods in



Diane Wade House staff embrace a tearful client at a Feb. 23 community gathering for the grand opening of the Diane Wade House, a new transitional facility offering Afrocentric services for women transitioning out of the criminal justice system.

a shared kitchen. At the Diane Wade House, she said, “The women get to be themselves.”

Freeman herself is in recovery, and explained that her work at Diane Wade House, specifically under the mentorship of Bridges to Change program manager O'Nesha Cochran, has been life-altering for her.

It is also a fitting homage to the facility's namesake, who served as a parole and probation officer for more than a decade until her death in 2010.

Read more at TheSkanner.com

Arrest cont'd from pg 1

bic slurs at him. The other Proud Boys member hasn't yet been arrested.

A request for comment Tuesday evening from police about the timing of Flippo's arrest wasn't immediately answered.

On Monday, Wheeler called for

“In what city is it legal to engage in a street brawl?”

a change to laws if they don't allow police officers to arrest brawlers and vowed that anyone fighting will not go unpunished.

Wheeler also said prosecutors

were being too timid and not enforcing existing law.

Wheeler mentioned an Oct. 13 fight outside a downtown bar in which members of the right-wing group Patriot Prayer and left-wing Antifa used fists, batons and even bear mace. Police were present but did not attempt any arrests.

Wheeler said officials in Multnomah County District Attorney Rod Underhill's office told mayoral aides that prosecutors could do nothing because the law allows for “mutual combat” between people fighting.

“That was an unacceptable answer for me,” Wheeler said. “C'mon folks, we're overcompli-

cating this. You're not allowed to fight on the streets of the city.”

The police department is under scrutiny after it was revealed last month that a lieutenant in charge of containing protests texted repeatedly with the leader of Patriot Prayer, detailing the movement of a rival protest group.

Brent Weisberg, a spokesman for Underhill, said prosecutions are “incredibly complex” and some elements have been oversimplified “by individuals other than prosecutors.”

Sometimes prosecutors cannot determine the initial aggressor, he said, making it legally and ethically questionable to file charges.